



App. No. 10/750,729
Amendment dated March 29, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 29, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-6	-	Canceled
Claims 7-9	-	Currently Amended
Claims 10-12	-	Canceled
Claim 13	-	Currently Amended
Claims 14-17	-	Canceled
Claim 18	-	New

Claims

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A nursing bottle according to ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 18 wherein said ~~music~~ musical player is comprised of an electronically encoded digital chip with a speaker coupled thereto.

8. (Currently Amended) A nursing bottle according to ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 18 further comprising a bypass circuit around said gravity-operated switching mechanism and coupling said electrical power source to said ~~music~~ musical player, and said bypass circuit has an externally accessible, manually operated bypass switch for manually turning said ~~music~~ musical player off and alternatively turning said ~~music~~ musical player on irrespective of the location of said sphere.

9. (Currently Amended) A nursing bottle according to ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 18 further comprising a base encapsulating said electrical power source, said music player and said omnidirectional gravity-operated switching mechanism, and wherein said base is detachably

5 coupled to said liquid container, and said base defines within its structure a cavity having a ceiling located beneath said liquid container, and wherein said inclined surface is a floor of said cavity spaced beneath said ceiling a distance greater than the diameter of said sphere, and said floor has an inverted frustoconical shape and said detent recess is a circular aperture at the center of said floor and said circular aperture has a diameter smaller than the diameter of said sphere.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A musical apparatus according to ~~Claim 11~~ Claim 18

further comprising a manual bypass circuit connecting said electrical power source to said ~~music~~ musical player and including a manual bypass switch operable externally of said base to alternatively close an electrical connection directly from said power source to said ~~music~~ musical player, isolate said electrical power source from said ~~music~~ musical player, and couple said power source to said ~~music~~ musical player through said ~~dynamic~~ electrical switch.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (New) In a musical infant nursing bottle employing a liquid container, an electrical power source, and a musical player, a base containing said electrical power source and said musical player and forming a liquid container seat to receive and support said liquid container from beneath and also to serve as a stand for supporting said liquid container in an upright vertical orientation, and wherein said base defines within its structure a cavity with a circular outer perimeter and an axial center, the improvement comprising: an omnidirectional, gravity operated switching mechanism including a cavity floor formed within said base as an inverted, frustoconical, inclined surface with a detent recess therein at said axial center of said cavity, and said cavity floor is inclined toward said detent recess at an angle of no less than about two degrees and no greater than about ten degrees, and said floor slopes from said outer perimeter away from said liquid container and toward said axial center at a uniform angle of inclination relative thereto, and further comprising a sphere movable by gravity to roll freely across said floor and beneath said liquid container when said liquid container is tilted from vertical alignment, and said detent recess is a circular aperture of diameter smaller than that of said sphere located in said floor at said axial center of said cavity, wherein said sphere rolls across said inclined surface and releaseably lodges in said detent recess when said liquid container resides in vertical alignment, and an electrical switch having a switching actuator located directly

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beneath said detent recess, whereby the weight of said sphere operates said switching actuator when said sphere is lodged in said detent recess to create an open circuit condition between said electrical power source and said musical player, and said sphere rolls out of said detent recess to create a closed circuit condition between said electrical power source and said musical player when said base is tilted sufficiently from vertical alignment.